

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Red Snapper Commercial Take Extension

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:317 which provides that the secretary of the department may declare a closed season when it is in the best interest of the state; the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries hereby finds that an imminent peril to the public welfare exists and accordingly adopts the following emergency rule.

Effective 12:01 a.m., January 1, 1996 the commercial fishery for red snapper in Louisiana waters will remain closed until 12:01 a.m., February 1, 1996.

The 1995 commercial fishery for red snapper was closed by emergency action after the Gulf of Mexico commercial quota had been estimated to be reached. That action remains in effect until January 1, 1996, at which time the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council was expected to reopen federal waters to the commercial harvest of red snapper. The council has since delayed the expected date for reopening federal waters until February 1, 1996. The secretary has been requested by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service to maintain a concurrent closure of state waters. This notice is intended to maintain a concurrent closure of state waters as requested by the council and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Joe L. Herring
Secretary

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